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Agenda item 87
Environment and sustainable development

Venezuela:* draft resolution

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 56/193 of 21 December 2001 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session,

Taking into account the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development,[1] in particular, Chapter XI on an institutional framework for sustainable development,

Recalling relevant provisions of the Plan of Implementation, in particular paragraph 140 (d), in which the General Assembly was invited to consider, at its fifty-seventh session, the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Recognizing that the question of establishing the universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme requires a thorough analysis by the Member States and the United Nations system,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session[2] as well as the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development,[1]

Underlining the unique role of the General Assembly, as the highest intergovernmental decision-making body of the United Nations, in giving consideration to the issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme and, therefore, the need for the General Assembly to consider all its implications, including legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, before making such a decision,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the development needs of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session;[2]

2. *Emphasizes* the need to implement the recommendations to strengthen the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the provision of capacity-building for and technology transfer to developing countries, as decided during the seventh special session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as paragraph 137 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development;[1]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Open-ended Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance for its report as endorsed by the Governing Council at its seventh special session;

4. *Takes note* of the agreement contained in the Plan of Implementation to fully implement the outcomes of decision I of the seventh special session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on international environmental governance;

5. *Invites* Member States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as multilateral environmental agreements to submit their written comments on the issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, to the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General, on the basis of those views, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Decides* to further consider at its fifty-eighth session the issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to submit a report on the implementation of other sections of decision I of the seventh special session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/57/25).

section D, and in supporting the implementation of the General Assembly resolution 53/242, and reiterates its desire that the reports on the work of the Environment Management Group be made available to the Member States for its consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Notes* other decisions adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventh special session;

9. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme and, in this regard, underlines the continued need to increase United Nations regular budget funding for the cost of servicing the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in accordance with section B of decision I of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventh special session;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to sustainable development programmes and the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels, bearing in mind paragraph 127 of the Plan of Implementation;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under constant review, to make further proposals towards strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi and to increase support to the United Nations Office at Nairobi to the levels of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office at Vienna.